



U.S. Department of Justice

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PRESS RELEASE

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District of Columbia teenager sentenced to 22 years for the 2006 murder of Brandon Day

Washington, D.C. - Vincent Mills, a 19-year-old resident of Washington, D.C., was sentenced to 22 years of incarceration today by the Honorable Judge Michael Rankin for his role in the April 21, 2006 murder of 18-year-old Brandon Day, announced Acting U.S. Attorney Channing D. Phillips. Mills pled guilty to one count of Second Degree Murder While Armed on August 25, 2009.

During the plea hearing, Mills – who was sixteen years old at the time of the murder but charged as an adult – admitted to shooting Brandon Day on Friday, April 21, 2006, at approximately 3:15 p.m., at the intersection of Rhode Island Avenue, NE, and 16th Place, NE, in Langdon Park. Mills acknowledged that he shot the decedent while firing a .9 mm firearm from the driver's seat of an SUV, which had been stolen from Prince Georges County, MD, during a carjacking on April 19, 2006. The defendant also admitted that, after the murder, he drove to 14th and Downing Street, NE, and bragged to several associates in the Saratoga neighborhood that he had just shot someone from “the Park,” referring to the Langdon Park neighborhood. Mills also displayed his gun to this group.

In announcing the sentence, Acting U.S. Attorney Phillips cautioned that long-standing feuds between rival neighborhoods have generated senseless violence which will be addressed by aggressive prosecutions. He specifically commended Metropolitan Police Department Detective William Xanten for his outstanding investigation. Additionally, he commended Assistant U.S. Attorneys Jean Sexton, who investigated and indicted the case, and Jocelyn Ballantine, who handled the case during plea negotiations and sentencing.

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